

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
OPERATING GASEOUS FUEL FIRED  
HEATER

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Prior Application  
Group No.: 3749

Prior Application  
Examiner: Jiping Lu

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop Patent Application**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-referenced Divisional Patent Application as follows:

On Page 1, after the title "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OPERATING GASEOUS FUEL FIRED HEATER", please insert the following:

**--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application is a divisional of co-pending Patent Application Serial No. 10/025,172, filed on 19 December 2001.--